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Title: Method for High-Throughput Selection of Interacting Molecules
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BOX PATENT APPLICATION
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

DEAR SIR:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows prior to substantive examination.

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a clean version of the entire set of pending claims. Claims that are shown in small type are not amended in this response but are included here to provide a complete list of the Claims pending in this application.

1. (Amended) A method for the selection of at least one member of a number of specifically interacting molecules from libraries, said method comprising:
 - (a) contacting a first molecule with a second molecule affixed to a magnetic particle under conditions that allow a specific interaction between said first and second molecule to occur;
 - (b) subjecting the product obtained in step (a) to at least one washing step;
 - (c) determining whether a specific interaction between said first and second molecule had occurred; and, if said specific interaction had occurred,
 - (d) providing said first and/or second molecule selected by steps (a) to (c), wherein steps (a), (b) and (c) are carried out in parallel in one or more containers, preferably representing an arrayed form, using an automated device comprising a magnetic particle processor.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said first and/or second molecule is an organic molecule and/or a mixture of organic molecules and/or inorganic molecules.
3. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein said first and/or second molecule is a hapten.